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VOICE OF THE CAP NCS NV WING

weekly journal

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Nellis Composite Squadron responds to its first solo mission

Major Patrick Harris, Emergency Services Officer

1 Jul 2009 Nellis AFB NV [Nellis Composite Squadron responds to their first mission.](#)

An 11 P.M. phone call on a warm summer night



starts a chain of events that marks a milestone in our squadron's history. We got the call to track down an Emergency Location Transmitter (ELT) somewhere on Nellis Air Force Base. The Ground

Team Leader Major Patrick Harris activated the notification system and assembled his team. The team members were CAP C/1st Lt. Nichole Crisp and CAP C/CMSgt William McLaughlin. CAP 1st Lt. Diane Crisp also reported the rally location to open the squadron office, assist in gathering the team gear and getting the team out the door.

Once ready the team called into the Incident Commander, notified the Nellis Command Post and started collecting Lines of Bearing (LOB) on the ELT signal. Almost immediately they got a strong signal coming from the flight line area.

They quickly took two more LOBs on a road that parallels the flight line and determined the signal was coming from the aircraft parking area. Coordinating with the Nellis Command Post a Security Forces escort arrived and the team drove onto the restricted area narrowing the signal down. After about 15 minutes taking several LOBs the signal was isolated to two rows of aircraft. The team then proceeded with Security Forces escort on foot and tracked the signal to an

F-15 Eagle .



The team then notified Nellis Command Post and waited for Aircraft Maintenance to arrive and terminate the signal. The maintenance crew could not kill the signal but the day shift maintainers discovered that the automated circuitry on the ELT had failed and the ELT was replaced. The Incident Commander, Lt Col Leon Franklin from Humboldt County was informed and he declared the mission a "Find".

This mission marks the first time that Nellis Composite Squadron was called on to take on a mission solo and not as part of a larger operation. That we quickly, professionally and effectively completed the mission with positive results is an indicator of our standards, commitment to training and service to our parent server and community.

Remember that the reward for a job well done is another job. We can expect to be called again so we need to be prepared to answer that call.

Great job everyone!

PHOTO EDITION

Change of command ceremony JUNE 30



June 30 NCS Our new Cadet Commander is C/1st Lt Nicole Crisp (left), formerly Deputy Cadet Commander. Former Cadet Commander C/Lt Col Andrew McLaughlin will be more involved in Wing Activities now and studying for his Spaatz Award. Both of their proud parents were in attendance.



<Lt Col Jay Roberts, Deputy Commander Cadets, C/1st Lt Crisp and C/Lt Col McLaughlin as NCS Color Guard passes by during Change of Command Ceremony.



< Commander David Jadwin, Mrs. Victoria McLaughlin, Brig. Gen. Kevin McLaughlin, USAF and Lt Col Jay Roberts. General and Mrs. McLaughlin receiving Rocketry Awards for all their hard work in the Rocketry program. 12 Cadets received their Rocketry Awards after an intensive Rocketry weekend recently.

NOTE RARE PIX of Mrs. McLaughlin, always busy behind the scenes and Commander Jadwin not smiling... NOW THAT IS RARE!



Brig. Gen. McLaughlin, USAF hands the Billie Mitchel award to C/2nd Lt Araya Li.



NCS Members showing their National Commander's Unit Citation certificates for their assistance in the Steve Fawcett search.

NCS OPEN-HOUSE June 30



Members and visitors arriving



ORIENTATION AWARDS for Senior Members. They have successfully passed the Level 1 introduction program, required for the rank of 2nd Lt. (left to right) Commander Jadwin, SM Jorge Torres, 2nd Lt Eddie Watson, SM Andrea Sanders, 2Lt Ted Mohrhardt and John D'Angelo.



quite a spread with drinks YUMMM

NCS MEMBERS MOVING UP



C/1st Lt Marie Brown (left) is scheduled to attend the USAF Military Academy next year. Her Grandfather Lt Col Richard Brown was former NCS Commander and is retired USAF Lt. Col.

C/Lt Col Andrew McLaughlin (right) has passed all CAP requirements for his present rank. He is studying for the coveted Gen. Spaatz award, which will advance him to C/Col. He plans to join the Military in the future. His Parents and Brother are also in NCS. Fearing there wasn't enough McLaughlin Clan here; His youngest Brother is planning to join NCS early next year at age 12.

NOW THAT WAS A PARADE!!

FROM THE COMMANDER

Happy 4th of July!



Lt Col David Jadwin

We had a great turnout today at the Summerlin Patriotic Parade! 40 CAP members from the 70th Cadet Squadron, Clark County Senior Squadron, Henderson Composite Squadron, Nellis Composite Squadron, Nellis Senior Squadron & Wing HQ braved the heat and displayed their patriotism. We had a Color Guard, Cadet Flight, Senior Flight (they marched!), "Cadet Ken" and a CAP van.

Finally, a lot of "Thank You's" are needed: Lt Kate Warrick's tireless efforts coordinating with squadrons (and trying to keep Cadet Ken cool!), Capt. & Capt. Mizner for polishing up the CAP van, 2d Lt Watson for driving cadets (as always). Thanks to all the members who were PAO's today, the Color Guard and each of the squadron coordinators & participants. I've heard a lot of great comments and feedback from participants & spectators. I know the 70th has already received on recruiting call!

Great job everyone!



Nellis Composite Squadron Color Guard



Las Vegas area CAP Cadets marching



Capt Ken popular with the spectators



Cadets preparing for inspection



THANKS TO SM Jose Torres for all parade pix

Parade Grand Marshal

*Brig. General, USAF
and Mrs. McLaughlin*



Brig. General Kevin McLaughlin, USAF has an important message for all of us. This message puts the 4th of July in perfect perspective.

INDEPENDENCE DAY:

BEACON FOR THE WORLD

Today, July 4th, 2009 is our nation's birthday, our Independence Day. It is a day that makes our nation one of the most special on earth. It is a day that makes us the envy of all others and a day that caused President Ronald Reagan to say, "America is a shining city upon a hill whose beacon light guides freedom-loving people everywhere."

Why does America's Independence Day represent such an important date to the world? Each of the 195 countries in the world today has a history and many of these countries have national birthdays and their own Days of Independence. Many of them have histories worthy of respect and national celebration. However, only the United States of America occupies such a unique position in the world that people everywhere yearn for the freedoms that many of us take for granted.

July 4th is a day of wonderful celebrations, fireworks, parades, and picnics. In fact, this year I had the honor of serving as the Grand Marshal in the 2009 Summerlin Patriotic Parade. It was a wonderful event and emblematic of parades repeated hundreds of times today across our great nation. People lined the street and cheered as the bands, floats, honor guards, and community leaders travelled slowly in front of them. Hundreds of military veterans wore their Veteran of Foreign Wars or retired military hats and most of them stood at attention and saluted me as I drove past. It made me proud to wear my uniform and hear the appreciative cheers in the crowd when I was announced along the parade route.

However, my mind was far away as I sat on the back of the convertible with my wife Victoria and waved to the throng of red, white, and blue clad Americans.

I thought back to Washington, Jefferson, Adams, and the rest of our founding fathers who had risked their fortunes, their freedom, and their lives to create the United States of America. My mind focused on the Declaration of Independence, our nation's most important chartering document, which simply states what the founding fathers described as the unalienable rights of man. Unalienable rights are those which cannot be given or taken away and our Declaration of Independence says "... among these (rights) are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." These rights are the bedrock of the idea that became the United States of America.

I also thought about oppressed people throughout the world, most recently illustrated by the thousands who struggle for democracy in Iran. In many ways, those who are fighting for freedom in Iran are risking everything that America's founding fathers risked over two hundred years ago. They risk their very lives in pursuit of the same rights represented in the Declaration of Independence signed on July 4, 1776.

Just like the declaration signed by the original thirteen colonies cast off an oppressive government and declared a new nation, those fighting for freedom in Iran have mutually pledged their "lives, fortunes, and sacred honor" to be free. It took more than seven years and the sacrifice of thousands of lives before the War of the American Revolution ended.

There is no guarantee that those in Iran will succeed within seven years or how many will die before their goal is achieved, but their quest will never die.

In his inaugural address President Obama stated, “Our founding fathers, faced with perils that we can scarcely imagine, drafted a charter to assure the rule of law and the rights of man, a charter expanded by the blood of generations.” In my opinion, the simple truths stated in our Declaration of Independence contain the principles and beliefs that make our nation the most special on earth and the cause millions of others around the world to want what we have. We should not be confused to think that all people want to live in America or become citizens of our country.

However, all people want the same unalienable rights that we have in our nation and they will fight, bleed, and die to gain them.

So this year, as we gather to celebrate our national birthright, we should know that those men who signed the Declaration of Independence changed not only the course of American history but also the destiny of the world.

It is inconceivable to us to imagine a world without the United States of America. Had our forefathers failed, it is possible that others throughout these past two centuries would be more hesitant to risk everything to be free. So as you watch the fireworks and parades on July 4th, stop to remember what we are celebrating and why it is so important to the entire world.

